REMARKS

Claims 56 - 62 are pending in the application. Claims 56, 57, 61, and 62 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being amicipated by Kim (US Patent No. 6,204,070 B1). Claims 58 - 60 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claim 56 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 58; therefore, the amended claim should be allowable. Since the content of claim 58 is now in claim 56, claim 58 has been canceled.

A new claim 63 has been included. Claim 63 is the same as the original claim 56, except it has been narrowed to include only the specific conductive barrier layer materials mentioned in the application. Please see page 16, lines 19 – 31, of the application. These materials are not disclosed in the prior art, are disclosed in the application, and overcome several significant problems, including the problems that titanium oxide has as disclosed in Kim, col. 3, lines 51 – 58.

In view of the above amendment and remarks, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicants believe no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-1848, under Order No. 013176.0426D1US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 7/19/05

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